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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/523,254	08/17/2005	Hermann Gaessler	10191/3720	1136

26646 7590 10/17/2007
KENYON & KENYON LLP
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NEW YORK, NY 10004

EXAMINER

ESHETE, ZELALEM

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3748

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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10/17/2007

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

uspto@kenyon.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/523,254

Applicant(s)

GAESSLER ET AL.

Examiner

Zelalem Eshete

Art Unit

3748

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/26/05.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

This Office action is in response to the preliminary amendment filed on 1/26/2005.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 12-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cardelli et al. (EP 1010867).

Regarding claim 12: Cardelli discloses a method for regulating a d.c. converter for at least two electromagnetic valves of an internal combustion engine (see figure, numeral 16; abstract), the method comprising: supplying each of the at least two electromagnetic valves with a current that is generated by the d.c. converter (see figure); determining when a total current supplied to the at least two electromagnetic valves constitutes a high load for the d.c. converter; and if a high load is determined, adapting the d.c. converter for processing of the high load (see paragraph 0023).

Regarding claim 13: Cardelli discloses the current supplied to each of the at least two electromagnetic valves is determined as a function of a triggering provided for an output stage upstream from the at least two electromagnetic valves (see figure).

Regarding claim 14: Cardelli discloses the high load for the d.c. converter is derived from overlapping currents of the at least two electromagnetic valves (see figure).

Regarding claim 15: Cardelli discloses adaptation of the d.c. converter includes increasing an output voltage of the d.c. converter in the case of a high load (see paragraphs 0023;0015).

Regarding claim 16: Cardelli discloses the output voltage is regulated with reference to a setpoint value, and wherein the setpoint value is increased (see paragraphs 0015,0020).

Regarding claim 17: Cardelli discloses an output power of the d.c. converter is increased in the case of a high load (see paragraph 0015,0020,0023).

Regarding claim 18: Cardelli discloses an increase in an output voltage of the d.c. converter is performed prior to an occurrence of the high load (see paragraph 0020).

Regarding claim 19: Cardelli discloses the increase in the output voltage is terminated upon termination of the high load state (see paragraph 0023).

Regarding claim 20: Cardelli discloses a computer-readable storage medium for storing computer program having instructions for controlling, when the program is executed by a computer (see figure), a method comprising: supplying each of the at least two electromagnetic valves with a current that is generated by the d.c. converter (see numeral 16); determining when a total current supplied to the at least two electromagnetic valves constitutes a high load for the d.c. converter, and if a high load is determined, adapting the d.c. converter for processing of the high load (see paragraph 0023).

Regarding claim 21: Cardelli discloses a device for regulating a d.c. converter for at least two electromagnetic valves of an internal combustion engine in a motor vehicle (see numeral 16), a current generated by the d.c. converter being supplied to each of the at least tow electromagnetic valves (see figure), the device comprising: a control unit configured to determine when a total current supplied to the at least two electromagnetic valves represents a high load for the d.c. converter, wherein the control unit regulates the d.c. converter for optimal processing of the high load (see paragraph 0023).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Yani et al. (5,915,347) discloses DC converter that constitutes voltage increasing means.

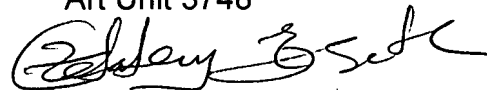
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zelalem Eshete whose telephone number is (571) 272-4860. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Denion can be reached on (571) 272-4859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Zelalem Eshete
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3748

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zelalem Eshete', is written over the printed name and title.